

shire.—Central New Hampshire has recently been visited by some rare birds for the locality. White-winged Crossbills (*Loxia leucoptera*) have previously been watched for in vain for thirty years by one of our best bird students, but he found them in comparative abundance this year and they have been seen by many other observers. Doubtless there have been stray individuals of this species here before, but their numbers at this time are particularly worthy of note.

A stranger visitation, however, has been a flock of Arctic sea birds. The last of November, 1899, a friend brought me a bird for identification that had been caught alive on land several miles from water, but it lived only a few days in captivity. I found it to be a Brünnich's Murre (*Uria lomvia*). Soon I learned that three others had been shot on one of the bays of Lake Winnepesaukee. The finest specimen was mounted, but the other two were used for the purpose of testing Gen. Greeley's statement that their flesh was excellent—the best flavored of any of the Arctic sea fowl. The report of the New Hampshire sportsmen was that roasted Murre tasted about as much like fowl as a smoked herring tastes like fish.

Still another Brünnich's Murre was seen to fly into a brush heap at Franklin Falls, where it was easily captured, uninjured. The captors, supposing they had a young Loon, took the bird to Webster Lake, three or four miles away, and, tying a string to the bird's leg, they hoped to observe some interesting feats in diving. In this they were disappointed, but the bird *swam* so vigorously that the string was broken and the bird's liberty was almost gained when, I am sorry to add, a shot from a gun ended its career.

Several other Brünnich's Murres have been reported and, so far as I can learn, it is the first time they have been taken here.

It has been said that if, by mischance, this bird should alight on land, it cannot always rise on wing to make its way by flight back to water. Is this statement correct?—ELLEN E. WEBSTER, *Franklin Falls, N. H.*

Ontario Bird Notes.—*Gavia arctica*. BLACK-THROATED LOON.—A female was taken on May 22, 1899, off Mimico (a suburb of Toronto), in Lake Ontario. The bird is in immature plumage, slightly abraded; the only previous record for Toronto is that of a pair sent to the Paris Exhibition of 1867.

Phalacrocorax carbo. CORMORANT.—A male was taken in Ashbridge's Bay, Toronto, on November 21, 1896. The bird was evidently starving and in a very bedraggled condition; it was killed with a brick by some boys. The Double-crested Cormorant is a regular migrant but this is the first true Cormorant I have seen from Toronto.

Histrionicus histrionicus. HARLEQUIN DUCK.—A female was taken at the Eastern Sandbar, Toronto, on October 20, 1894. The Harlequin Duck can be regarded as only a straggler on Lake Ontario. I have the records of three more specimens taken here in recent years; two immature males and a mature female.

Rissa tridactyla. KITTIWAKE.—Several were taken about Toronto in November, 1899.

Strix pratincola. AMERICAN BARN OWL.—A specimen was captured alive on a coal dock near the bay-front, Toronto, on September 7, 1899. The bird died soon afterwards and proved to be a male. This is the only Toronto record I am aware of, certainly the only one in recent years.

Pelecanus erythrorhynchus. AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN.—A male was shot on May 27, 1899, in the western bend of Lake Nipissing, Ontario.—JAMES H. FLEMING, *Toronto, Can.*

New Brunswick Notes.—It is evidently news to ornithologists that the American Robin (*Merula migratoria*) should be a winter resident in New Brunswick, yet such is without a doubt true. A big-game hunter informed me that about a large spring near the headwaters of the Nepisiquit River Robins were seen about the 20th of December, 1898. In the latter part of March, 1899, this locality was again visited and the Robins were there to the number of about fifty.

The Robins leave this locality (Scotch Lake) late in October or early in November, returning generally in the first week of April, but sometimes in the latter part of March. This locality is situated about 46° N., quite a distance south of the Nepisiquit.

A Turkey Buzzard (*Cathartes aura*) was captured in March, 1898, in Victoria County, N. B., and another seen at Keswick, York County, N. B., the same spring.

A Mourning Dove (*Zenaidura macroura*), a very rare bird here, was taken near Fredericton, Oct. 14, 1899.—WILLIE H. MOORE, *Scotch Lake, York Co., N. B.*

Bird News from Central New York.—In the three years which have elapsed since my last communication to 'The Auk' I have been able to add three new species to our list of Oneida County Birds, which with *Icteria virens*, recorded by Mr. W. J. B. Williams on page 331 of Vol. XV, bring the total for our vicinity up to 247. These three are:

Numenius hudsonicus. HUDSONIAN CURLEW.—A specimen of this bird, sex unknown, was shot on Verona Beach, Oneida Lake, by Egbert Bagg, Jr., Sept. 5, 1899.

Strix pratincola. AMERICAN BARN OWL.—About the middle of September, 1898, Mr. Charles L. Smith of Utica was driving in the adjoining town of Marcy, when he saw an Owl in a tree beside the road. While he was watching the bird, it left its perch and flew to a neighboring barnyard where it proceeded to "chase the chickens." Mr. S. left his horse and went to the rescue of the chickens, expecting to see the Owl fly away, but instead, it sought safety under the barn (perhaps having been there before). Mr. S. crawled in after the bird and captured it alive and took it home with him. He kept it alive for some time but finally